how to make practical application of them. But, thirdly, the great influence of genetics in maintaining biological materialism was largely due to the confident claim that the theory of the genes was in process of solving step by step the most central, the most comprehensive, of all biological problems, namely the problem of morpho-genesis; for this comprehends the problems of growth and assimilation, of heredity, variation, regulation, restitution, control of part by whole, the marvellous combination of stability with lability.

This dominance of genetics in twentieth-century biology affords, then, a partial explanation of a most anomalous state of affairs, one which still prevails : namely, the continued currency of mechanistic materialism among biologists a whole generation and more after its eclipse in the physical sciences.

This curious state of affairs, resulting from the bolster-ing of the mechanical biology by genetics, required us to examine the claim of genetics to have solved in principle the problem of morphogenesis, and concisely to define the immense gap between its present achievement and the goal in view.

While recognizing the brilliance of the geneticists' demonstration of correlations between £ genes ' (or some material constituents of the chromosomes) and of various features of the adult organism; we had to point to an error, explicitly or implicitly made by many geneticists; namely, the error of assuming that such correlations do more than show that the genes thus correlated with adult

features are necessary constituents of the egg, material constituents indispensable for the development of the correlated adult features; that they show that the genes are more than necessary but passive building materials,